

Screamfest still growing — bigger and scarier

By **ROBIN DOWNTON-POIRIER**

Special to The Champion

In a little over a month ghosts, goblins, witches and any number of creepy creatures will wander the streets on Halloween night in search of goodies.

But before the trick-or-treaters come out, the ghouls of Screamfest 2005 will open their haunted house to the public.

Screamfest, produced by After Dark Productions in co-operation with White Rock Ostrich Farm on Fourth Line in Nassagaweya, is in its sixth year of operation — with attendance growing each year.

A seven-room haunted house packed with monsters straight from the horrific imaginations of Screamfest's owners has

moved locations three times over the years to accommodate its every-growing fan-base. "We started this as a family thing where we would decorate our house at Halloween. Then we moved because the crowds were getting bigger and bigger," said co-owner John Platt. "In 2000, we moved to the White Rock Ostrich Farm, home of Deb and Don Simmonds, who, through no fault of their own, unwittingly gave us the opportunity to set up on their property and create our first professional attraction."

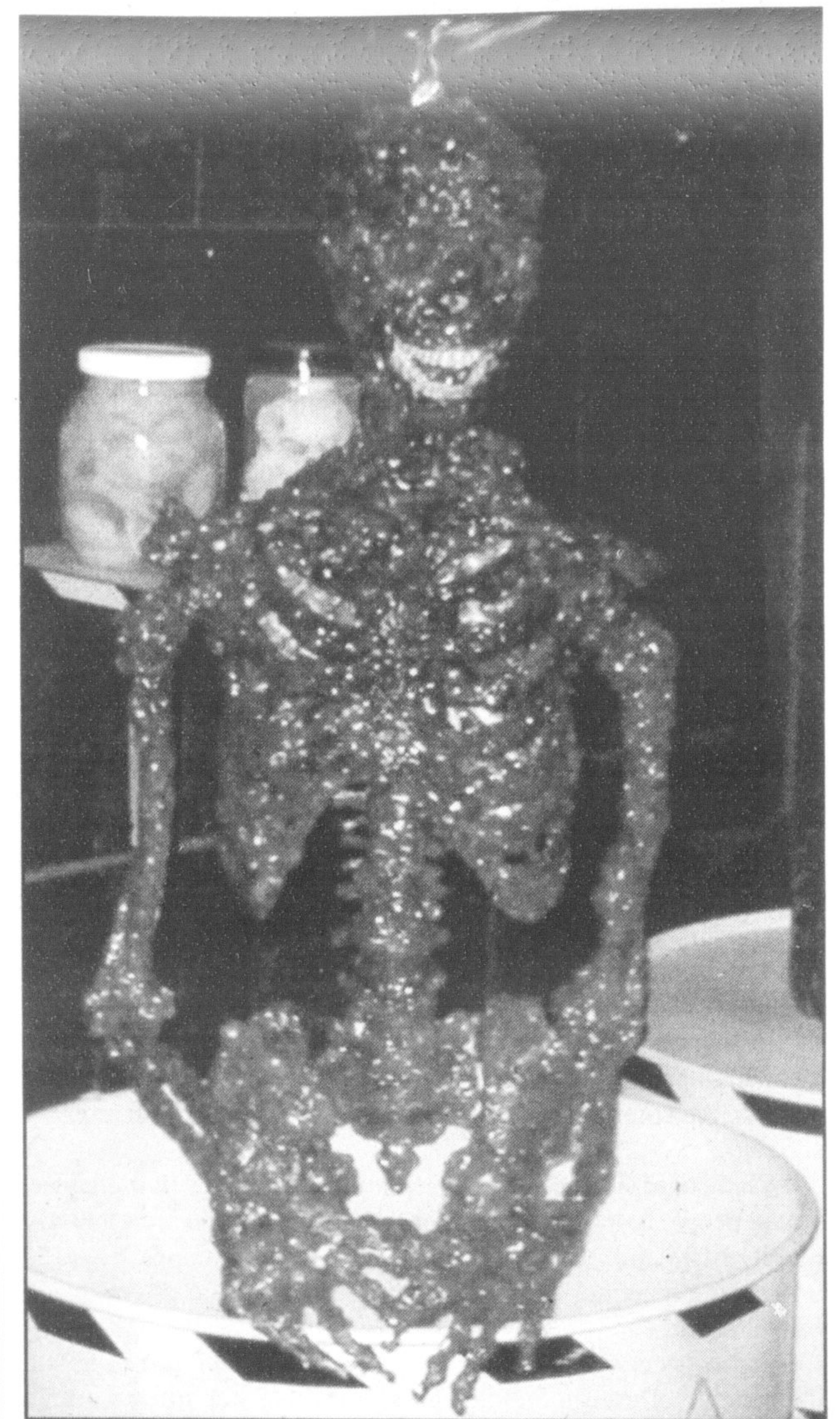
The four owners each bring unique talents to the operation. John Platt is a freelance artist who helps plan and build the props; Richard Gehne is the group's electri-

cian; and Gordon Goss and Paul Clinton enhance the fright factor by contributing to a "bit of everything," said Mr. Platt.

Work begins in late May to prepare for October's shows with the group often working about six hours a day a few times a week to ensure all systems are ready to go. The owners, along with approximately a dozen other 'crazy' souls, make Screamfest a success season after season.

Each year, After Dark Productions beefs up the props, monsters and the haunted house itself to make it creepier and scarier than the year before. This year's enhancements include an animated hologram, a graveyard that's double in size over previous years, and more ghouls and monsters to chase the visitors who dare to set foot at White Rock.

A prize draw will be added this year and Mr. Platt is hoping that the gothic jewellery • see HALLOWEEN on page A11



This skeleton is just one of the creepy creatures Screamfest visitors will encounter this year.

Are You Suffering From Arthritis of the Hip?

Studies with an experimental treatment for the relief of osteoarthritis are presently under way across Canada.



You may be eligible if you:

- are at least 40 years of age
- feel pain in the hip (most noticeably in the groin) while walking
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If you are interested in participating or wish to know more about the research study, please call Erika Simon at Dr. A. Jaroszynska's office:

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CORRECTION NOTICE

Milton Minor Baseball Association Ad. Friday Sept 23/05 should read...

BANTAM REP TRYOUTS

| | |
|---|--|
| ROTARY PARK SATURDAY OCT 1 2:00 - 4:00 pm | ROTARY PARK, SUNDAY OCT 2 10:00 - 12:00 am |
|---|--|

All tryouts are at Rotary Park.

905-876-2288
www.milton-baseball.org

MILTON HYDRO INFORMATION SESSION

Milton Hydro is hosting an Information Session on the Ontario Energy Board's new Regulated Price Plan. Learn more about Time of Use (TOU) Prices for Residential & Small Commercial Customers who have a Smart (interval) meter and how shifting consumption to off-peak periods can reduce your energy costs.

Date: Tuesday, September 27, 2005
Time: 7:00p.m.
Place: Milton Sports Centre
605 Santa Maria Blvd

Learn about Milton Hydro's plan to send "street teams" to small commercial customers who will be under the TOU price structure commencing in October. Milton Hydro has partnered with the Clean Air Foundation to provide the "Cool Shops" program to this group of customers. The program identifies and helps implement in-store energy management practices to save on utility costs and reduce energy use and green house gas emissions.



Time of use price structure

| | TIME | | PRICE |
|---|-------------------------|----------|---------------|
| Weekends & holidays | All day | Off-peak | 2.9 cents/kWh |
| Summer Weekdays (May 1st - Oct 31st) | 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. | Mid-peak | 6.4 cents/kWh |
| | 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. | On-peak | 9.3 cents/kWh |
| | 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. | Mid-peak | 6.4 cents/kWh |
| | 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. | Off-peak | 2.9 cents/kWh |
| Winter Weekdays (Nov 1st - Apr 30th) | 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. | On-peak | 9.3 cents/kWh |
| | 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. | Mid-peak | 6.4 cents/kWh |
| | 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. | On-peak | 9.3 cents/kWh |
| | 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. | Mid-peak | 6.4 cents/kWh |
| | 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. | Off-peak | 2.9 cents/kWh |

*Customers who have a Smart meter and will be under the TOU price structure, commencing in October, have recently been notified.

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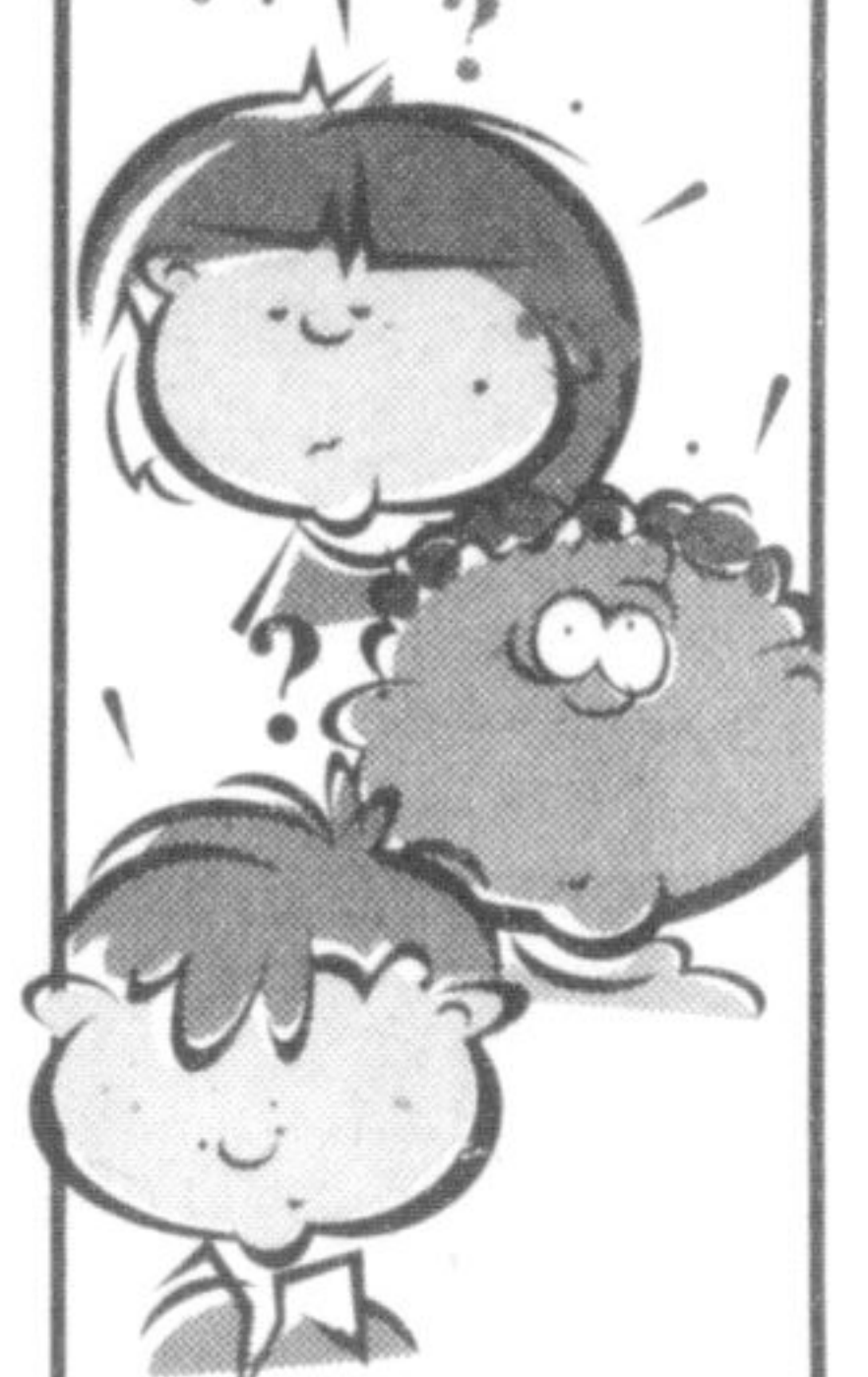
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*While quantities last.

SMOKING what's the point?



Someday, you'll be offered a cigarette or be tempted to smoke.

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Smoking can cause permanent damage to your body. Once a person starts, it becomes extremely tough to quit. And did we mention all that cash you'll be blowing in the process?

So, if you're tempted to start, ask yourself, "What's the point?"

This message brought to you by:

The Canadian Champion